# MINUTES

OF THE

ELEVENTH ANNUAL SESSION

OF THE

# CENTRAL LIBERTY BAPTIST ASSOCIATION,

HELD WITH THE HOPEWELL CHURCH,

HALE COUNTY, ALABAMA,

HELD OCTOBER 4th and 5th, 1895.

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ADAM FIKES,
MODERATOR.

A. J. MAYFIELD,
CLERK.

## PROCEEDINGS.

HOPEWELL CHURCH October 4, 1895.

The Central Liberty Association met in its eleventh session.

Introductory Sermon was preached by Elder J. R. Wiggins, from James, 2nd chap., 26th verse: "For as the body without the spirit is dead, so faith without works is dead also." Then a recess of one hour was given to partake of dinner, which was prepared and at the church.

Then the former moderator called the body to order and read the 46th division of the Psalms and offered prayer. Then took his seat and declared the body partially organized and ready for business.

Called for the letters from the churches, and appointed J. T. Tubb and J. M. Greathouse to read the letters.

Letters and names of delegates enrolled as follows:

HAYSOP—Rev. W. G. Hubbard,* J. W. Hubbard, S. C. Hubbard, R. M. Brown,* H. Murphy,* Martin Thompson.*

LIBERTY.—Rev. F. M. Hobson, H. P. Boyd,* J. H. Deweese,* R. E. Howard.*

MULBERRY.—Rev. A. Fikes, W. B. Caddell,* E. E. Mayfield, A. J. Mayfield.

PLEASANT HILL.—M. C. Hester, Willis Skelton,* R. F. Coley,* H. H. Johnson.

SOUTH SANDY.—J. D. Sumner,* A. J. Tingle, S. P. Sumner, J. W. Dockery, Jr.*

UNION.—Rev. J. R. Wiggins, J. M. Greathouse, J. W. Moore, J. B. Keeton.*

HOPEWELL.—J. T. Tubb, Martin Spencer, C. M. Maharry.

The following brethren were added to the delegation: To Mulberry J. W. Caddell; Union, W. P. Wooten; Pleasant Hill, L. A. Jenkins.

Then went into the election of Moderator and Clerk, which resulted in the choice of Rev. Adam Fikes Moderator and A. J. Mayfield Clerk.

The Constitution and Rules of Decorum were read.

Appointed the following Committees:

Devotion—S. C. Hubbard, W. P. Wooten, J. D. Sumner, with deacons of Hopewell.

Arrangement of Business—J. M. Greathouse, J. B. Wiggins, J. T. Tubb, with the Moderator and Clerk.

Finance—S. P. Sumner, Wm. Tingle, J. W. Caddell.

Documents—F. M. Hobson, E. E. Mayfield, L. A. Jenkins.

Called for the report on Devotion: Prayer meeting to-morrow morning at 9 o'clock, led by J. M. Greathouse.

Adjourned until to-morrow morning at 10 o'clock.

### SECOND DAY'S SESSION.

At 9 A. M., Prayer meeting, led by J. M. Greathouse.

The Moderator called the body to order.

1. Opened the door for correspondence, and received G. A. Stewart from the Union Association.

2. Called for the report on Arrangement of Business: The Association is to take up business in the same way they did last year.

3. Called the roll and marked absentees (see table).

4. Called for the report on Missions. Read and adopted as follow:

We, your Committee on Missions, beg leave to report that the world is a missionary field for the missionaries to work in. Such being the case, we believe that it is a Christian duty enjoined on all Christians to work in that direction. The Southern Convention has State, Home, and Foreign Missions. We have missionaries in six different foreign fields, to wit: Cuba, Brazil, Italy, Africa and China. Among these we have several native preachers, and the success in foreign fields is more or less prosperous. Having no data to operate upon, we submit the foregoing imperfect report. J. M. GREATHOUSE, Chairman.

Then gave way for preaching and dinner, and Rev. F. M. Hobson preached us an interesting missionary sermon from the words: "Finally, brethren, pray for us, that the word of the Lord may have free course and be glorified even as it is with you." II. Thes. 3:1.

EVENING SESSION.

Called for the report on Sabbath Schools. Adopted as follows:

We, your Committee on Sabbath Schools, beg leave to report that the interest in Sabbath Schools is increasing in our Association, and we hope that it will continue to increase until every church in the Association will have a good working Sabbath School in her midst. Respectfully submitted. J. R. WIGGINS.

6. Called for the Report on Temperance. Adopted as follows:

By consulting the Word of God, we find that no drunkard can enter the kingdom of heaven; and we are instructed to be temperate in all things. Therefore, we should not only condemn intemperance, but should, as individuals, churches and association, abstain from the use of intoxicating liquors as a beverage; first, because there is no safe grounds to occupy and use it, as drunkards are made up of those first taking social drinks, then by becoming moderate drinkers, and on, step by step, until their lives become wrecked and their families reduced to poverty and suffering, and they finally go down into a drunkard's grave. Then, let us, as individuals and association, who profess to take the Bible as the Word of God, and to be followers of the Lord Jesus Christ—let us try to occupy the safe ground and use our influence to set tee best examples before our friends and our children. Respectfully submitted, J. T. TUBB.

7. Called for the Report on Education Adopted as follows:

Education is something that we should try to give our children. It is a better inheritance than a great estate, for education is a source of gaining knowledge, and knowledge is power, and being so progressive that the old field schools or walls of colleges do not contain its power only for the body. The Bible should be the book of books and the branch of branches of study with us and all of our Baptist families. Our people, seeing the great advantages of enlightening our children in the great cause of religion, we should carry our children to Sabbath school and prayer meeting, and other religious places. Respectfully, C. M. MAHARRY.

8. Called for Report on Documents. Adopted as follows:

We, your Committee on Documents, find nothing to claim your attention, only Hopewell Church has licensed Bro. Spencer to preach the Gospel, and Haysop calls for the next association. L. A. Jenkins, Chairman.

9. Called for the report on Finance. Received from the Churches, $11.15. S. P. SUMNER, Chairman.

On motion, the Clerk is to have 250 copies of these minutes printed and have the balance of the money for his services.

The next session of this body will be held with the Haysop Church, on Friday before the first Sabbath in October, 1896; Elder F. M. Hobson to preach the Introductory Sermon—Adam Fikes alternate.

The next District Meeting of the Second District will be held with the Pleasant Hill Church, on Saturday before the second Saturday in September, 1896; Elder M. Morrison to preach the Introductory Sermon—A. Fikes alternate.

Called for new business, and the first district petitioned the second for consolidation, which was done. Then appointed the following committees: On Missions—J. H. Deweese. On Temperance or Prohibition—J. R. Wiggins. On Sabbath Schools—A. J. Mayfield. On Education—L. A. Hester.

The Association, having gone through with the business before it, sang a hymn and took the parting hand. Prayer by J. R. Wiggins.

A. J. MAYFIELD, Clerk. ADAM FIKES, Moderator.

The Association returns its thanks to the brethren and sisters of Hopewell Church and vicinity for their kindness to us.—CLERK.

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## ABSTRACT OF PRINCIPLES.

ARTICLE 1. We believe in one true and living God, the Father, the Word, and the Holy Ghost.

2. We believe that the Scriptures, comprising the Old and New Testament, are the Word of God, the only rule of faith and practice.

3. We believe in the doctrine of Election, and that God chose his people in Christ before the foundation of the world.

4. We believe in the doctrine of original sin.

5. We believe in man's inability, by his own free will and ability, to recover himself from the fallen state in which he is by nature.

6. We believe that sinners are justified in the sight of God by the imputed righteousness of Christ only.

7. We believe that God's elect shall be called, regenerated, and sanctified by the Holy Ghost.

8. We believe that the Saints shall be preserved in Grace, and never fall finally away.

9. We believe that Baptism and the Lord's Supper are ordinances of Jesus Christ, and the true believers are the only subjects of Baptism, and that by Immersion is the Apostolic mode.

10. We believe that our Lord and Master washed his disciples' feet; we ought to wash one another's feet.

11. We believe in the resurrection of the dead, and in the General Judgment, and that the felicity of the righteous and punishment of the wicked will be eternal.

12. We believe that no minister has any right to administer the ordinances of the Church, but one who is regularly baptized, called, and comes under the imposition of the hands of Presbytery.

13. We believe that none but regularly baptized members have a right to commune at the Lord's Table.

## RULES OF DECORUM.

Article 1 The Association shall be opened and closed with prayer.

2. A Moderator and Clerk shall be chosen by the members present.

3. The Moderator shall be considered a judge of order, and shall have a discretionary right to call a member to order at any time.

4. A member not satisfied with his decision, may appeal to the Association on the same day, but at no other time.

5. But one member shall speak at a time, who shall rise to his feet, address the moderator, and, on obtaining permission, proceed.

6. The Moderator, when addressed by a member for permission to speak, shall signify the same by naming the member, or otherwise.

7. No member shall be interrupted while speaking, unless he depart from the subject, or use words of personal reflection. Every motion made and seconded shall come under the consideration of the Association, unless withdrawn by him who made it.

8. Every case taken up by the Association shall be decided on or withdrawn before another shall be offered.

9. When a question is taken up, after allowing time for the debates, the Moderator shall take the voice of the Association on the subject, in such mode as he may determine.

10. Any member wishing to retire shall obtain permission of the Moderator.

11. No member shall speak more than twice on the same proposition, without permission of the Association, nor shall any proposition be made to close the subject until the debates have been carried through.

12. The appellation of "Brother" shall be used in the Association by members in their address to one another.

13. The names of members shall be called as often as the Association may direct.

14. No member shall be tolerated in any practice which tends to interrupt public speaking.

15. The Moderator shall be entitled to the same privilege of speaking as any other member, provided he appoint another to his seat during the time, but he shall not vote on any question unless the Association be equally divided.

16. Any member violating these rules shall be reproved by the Moderator, as directed by the association but only on the day the breach shall have been made.

17. These rules shall be read at the opening of every session of the association, and shall be altered and amended when a majority of the members shall deem it necessary.

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Received of A. J. Mayfield $6.00 for 250 copies of these minutes.

Burton & Weatherford.

## STATISTICAL TABLE.

| CHURCH. | PASTOR. | PASTOR'S P. O. | CLERK. | CLERK'S P. O. | Baptized. | Rec'd by Letter. | Restored. | Dis. by Letter. | Excluded. | Died. | Previous Number. | Present Number. | Money sent. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Haysop | W G Hubbard | Scottsville | B J Muryhy | Scottsville | | | | | | | 150 | | $ 3 00 |
| Liberty | F M Hobson | Hagler | H P Boyd | Hagler | | 2 | | 7 | 2 | | 84 | 77 | 1 50 |
| Mulberry | Adam Fikes | Pondville | J W Caddell | Pondville | | | | | 1 | | 90 | 89 | 1 50 |
| Pleasant Hill | J W Loveless | Griffin | C W Johnson | Moundville | 1 | | | 22 | 4 | 1 | 103 | 76 | 1 25 |
| Pine Flat | not represented. | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Spring Hill | not represented. | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| South Sandy | F M Hobson | Hagler | S P Sumner | Griffin | | 4 | | 1 | 2 | 2 | 95 | 89 | 1 25 |
| Union | J B Wiggins | Data | J M Greathouse | Data | | 5 | | | | | 69 | 74 | 1 40 |
| Hopewell | J W Loveless | Griffin | J D Geddie | Moundville | | | | 4 | | | 36 | 32 | 1 25 |